

Kenneth Lawrence Gould

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15 February 2001

Mr. Terry Long
Detroit District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 1027
Detroit, MI 48231-1027

RE: Great Lakes Navigation System Review

Dear Mr. Long:

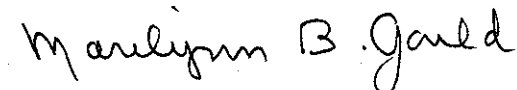
My wife has been a summer resident of Pullman Island on the St. Lawrence River near the town of Clayton, in Jefferson County, since 1933, and I have been visiting the river every summer since 1949, a year before our marriage. We both dearly love the river, and are vitally interested in its future, both for the rest of our lives and the future of our children and grandchildren.

So we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the scope of the Great Lakes Navigation System Review. Given the lack of demand for the Seaway and Great Lakes waterborne commerce I am not clear why there needs to be modifications to the navigation system. Rather, the Corps should take a look at the correcting the damage caused by existing navigation projects.

We would like to see the completion of the ecosystem wide biological assessment called for in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Coordination Report as recommended in the Connecting Channels and Harbors Study. Further, there are more than 40 Areas of Concern or "toxic hot spots" in the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence River system, many of which are located in or near Great Lakes Harbors. I recommend that the Corps look at the costs of conducting an ecosystem wide ecological study and the feasibility of removing, in an environmentally safe manner, the millions of pounds of pollutants at these areas of concentrated toxic pollution. It is very disturbing that we are unable to eat fish from the river because of the mercury levels.

Sincerely,


Kenneth Lawrence Gould


Marilynn B. Gould

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cc: Congressman McHugh